

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064052

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 064052 ACTION EC BRUSSELS
BONN BRUSSELS DUBLIN COPENHAGEN LONDON LUXEMBOURG PARIS ROME
THE HAGUE INFO OECD PARIS USUN NEW YORK, MARCH 29TH:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, ENRG, EAID

SUBJECT: COMMISSION SUGGESTION ON FUND TO AID POOREST LDC'S

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 1727; B) EC BRUSSELS 1776

1. FOR EC BRUSSELS: FOLLOWING REMARKS ARE IN RESPONSE TO
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON'S REQUEST FOR US REACTION
TO COMMISSION SUGGESTION AND ARE
MEANT TO BE GENERAL AND
NON-COMMITTAL.

2. YOU MAY INFORM CHEYSSON AND OTHER APPROPRIATE EC
OFFICIALS THAT USG SHARES THEIR GENERAL CONCERN AT PROBLEM
POOREST OF LDC'S FACING IN LIGHT OF INCREASED OIL PRICES.
THIS PROBLEM IS ONE OF THE ISSUES BEING CONSIDERED IN
ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP MEETINGS. EC COMMISSION IS, OF
COURSE, AWARE THAT SEVERAL SCHEMES TO MEET PROBLEM HAVE
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BEEN SUGGESTED BY OIL PRODUCERS, BY INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS AND BY OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS. USG

IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING RELATIVE MERITS OF THESE AND OTHERS, TO DECIDE ON MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO US AND PRESUMABLY TO OTHER DC'S STRUGGLING TO MANAGE THEIR OWN RISING OIL IMPORT BILLS. MAJOR CRITERIA WE ARE USING TO EVALUATE VARIOUS PROPOSALS IS THAT THEY NOT CONTRIBUTE TO FIXING OIL PRICES AT CURRENT LEVELS, OR RELIEVE PRESSURE ON OIL PRODUCERS TO

LOWER THEM; THAT THEY ACTUALLY ASSIST POOREST NATIONS, NOT MERELY POSTPONE THEIR PROBLEMS FOR BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME; THAT WE NOT BEAR BURDEN OF PAYING FOR INCREASED COSTS OF LDC OIL IMPORTS; AND THAT THEY HAVE REASONABLE CHANCE OF APPROVAL IN US CONGRESS.

3. WE EXPECT THAT ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP WILL REMAIN A PRINCIPAL FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS QUESTION AMONG CONSUMING NATIONS BUT RECOGNIZE THAT SUBJECT CERTAIN TO ARISE DURING UNGA IN NEW YORK. US BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES NOT ACT AT CROSS-PURPOSES DURING UNGA AND IS HOPEFUL THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING THOSE FROM EC COMMISSION, WILL MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT IN NEW YORK AND WILL BE ABLE TO WORK OUT COMMON APPROACHES WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

4. FOR OTHER ACTION POSTS: YOU MAY DRAW ON THE ABOVE IN DISCUSSING EC COMMISSION SUGGESTION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, SHOULD THEY RAISE ISSUE. KISSINGER
UNQUOTE RUSH

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